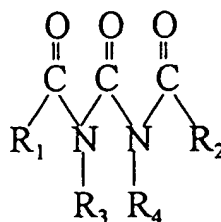


ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention is directed to new compositions of matter comprising the reaction products of a carboxylic acid and a urea having the formula



- 5 where R_1 , R_2 , R_3 and R_4 are the same or different and are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, substituted and unsubstituted alkyl, allyl, vinyl and alkoxy groups having from 1-6 carbon atoms, substituted and unsubstituted phenyl groups and the halides. Preferably, the reaction product of the present invention is N,N'- diformylurea or N,N'- diacetylurea. These reaction products,
- 10 e.g., diformylurea, have been found to produce significantly improved growth in a variety of agricultural products when applied to the seed, to the surrounding soil or to the foliage of the emerging plant. Because of the similarity in the carbon, nitrogen, oxygen structure of these reaction products with many biological compounds, it is believed that the reaction products of the present
- 15 invention may find use in a variety of biological applications.